Use of Additives in Processed Foods

3164. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to State:

(a) whether Government are aware that over 500 additives are being used in processed foods and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government are aware that several of these additives including artificial sweetners and food colours are carcinorgenic specially for children and pregnant mothers ; and

(c) whether many of these additives are being used in our soft-drinks industry include Caffeine which is an additive in nature?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES AND THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RAMNIWAS MIRDHA): (a) and (b) Under the provisions of Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954 and Rule, 1955 Food additives like preservatives, food colours, flavouring agent, flavour enhancers, acidifiers, emulsifiers, antioxidants, stabilisers, anticaking agents, anti-foaming agent and artificial sweetners are permitted in food products within safe limits, on the basis of Acceptable Daily Intake of these additives and technological necessity in the manufacture of food products, Chemicals which are carcinogenic are not permitted.

(c) Some of these additives such as permitted flavouring, colouring matter, preservatives, emulsifying and stablizing agents, citric acid, fumaric acid, sorbitol tartaric acid phosphoric acid, lactic acid, ascosbic acid, malic acid, edible gum, edible geletin, albumin, salts of sodium, calcoum magnesium vitamins caffeine not exceeding 200 parts per million, sact charin not exceeding 100 parts per-

million and quinine salts not exceeding 100 parts per million have been permitted in soft drinks.

Technology mission on population control

3165. Shri Chaturanan mishra : Will the Minister of Planning be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that suggestions for undertaking Technology Missions on Population Control, Blindness and safe Alternatives to Pesticides were received from a Non-Government and Organisation by the concerned Group of the Commission; if so the details thereof;

(b) what is the present status of these proposals ;

(c) whether the concerned society has been informed of the position; and

(d) whether specialist NGOs would be involved in framing, implementation evaluation and monitoring of Technology Missions?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING AND THE MINISTER OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Employees Employed by World Bank and U.N. Bodies

3166. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what are the names and designations of employees who were employed by World Bank and UN bodies on deputation while serving with Government and returned to Government service;